



**Ashley National Forest Service  
Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area  
Flaming Gorge/Vernal Ranger District**

**OUTREACH NOTICE**

**03/09/2015**

**This position will be advertised in the near future as a single vacancy announcement.**

**Please see the last page for information regarding the application process.**

The Flaming Gorge/Vernal Ranger District, Ashley National Forest is advertising for a permanent Deputy District Ranger position at the GS-12 level. This position offers opportunity and exciting challenges in a spectacular setting.

**Position Title:** DEPUTY DISTRICT RANGER, GS-0340-12

**Location:** Ashley National Forest, Flaming Gorge/Vernal Ranger District, located in Wyoming and Utah.

**Duty Station:** Vernal, Utah

**About the Position:**

This position serves as a Deputy District Ranger on a National Forest. The Deputy serves as an alter-ego to the District Ranger and as such shares responsibility with the District Ranger for providing technical and administrative direction to all activities on the District, including supervision of District employees through intermediate supervisors. Represents the District Ranger in any transaction affecting the Ranger District with the same degree of authority to commit the District, but subject to post review by the District Ranger or the Forest Supervisor. This position requires strong writing skills, knowledge of NEPA, and attention to detail, good interpersonal skills, and the ability to work in an interdisciplinary team environment.

**About the Forest:** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley>

The Ashley National Forest encompasses almost a million and a half acres in northeastern Utah and southwestern Wyoming. The Forest lies in three geographical areas: the east-west range of the Uinta Mountains, the Wyoming Basin, and the Tavaputs Plateau. Elevations range from 6,000 feet to over 13,500 feet.

Steep canyons, high mountain peaks, glaciated basins, large open meadows, and desert badlands, all contain a rich diversity of vegetation and wildlife. Wildlife is abundant. Larger species include bear, mountain lion, moose, elk, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and bighorn sheep. Neighboring lands include the Uinta and Ouray Indian Reservation to the south, the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to the west and north, and a mixture of Bureau of Land Management, State of Utah, and private lands to the east and southeast. Compared with other National Forests, relatively few small tracts of private land lie within the Ashley's boundary. The Ashley has three major recreation attractions of national significance:

The High Uintas Wilderness, established by Congress in 1984, comprises nearly one-half million acres in the Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests. Within the wilderness, elevations range from 8,000 feet to 13,582 feet at the top of Kings Peak, the highest in Utah. The Uinta Mountain range runs east to west, from the Wasatch Mountains into Colorado. Pre-Cambrian rock formed from sediments laid down 600 million years ago makes up the core of the range. Glacial activity carved deep canyons and left a spectacular landscape of rolling, treeless peaks and stratified ridges interspersed with broad meadows and numerous lakes.

**About the District:**

The Flaming Gorge/Vernal Ranger District has recently combined to incorporate the Flaming Gorge and Vernal Districts. The Flaming Gorge/Vernal District encompasses the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area that lies in the northeast part of the Forest. Flaming Gorge Reservoir is 91 miles long, and offers outstanding fishing and boating opportunities. Record-breaking German brown trout and large lake and rainbow trout have been taken from its waters. The Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam is a world-famous trout stream. Sheep Creek Geological Area is located about 5 miles south of Manila, in the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area. Sheep Creek Canyon is filled with twisted and folded rock formations that expose 600 million years of the earth's history. Towering rock spires flank the road.

The Flaming Gorge/Vernal District also encompasses the Vernal Ranger District which lies within the Uintah Basin. The District offers a great opportunity to travel and view many dispersed campgrounds and plenty of opportunity to recreate within close vicinity of Vernal, Utah. The Aspen stands are very spectacular to those wishing to view the great fall colors. The district also offers plenty of winter recreation that includes, snowmobiling, cross country skiing, and Yurt rentals.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley>

### **ABOUT VERNAL, UTAH**

Nestled in a beautiful valley south of the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area and west of Dinosaur National Monument, Vernal is the county seat of Uintah County. Vernal City's population is about 9,000. When combined with the residents of surrounding communities, the population of the Ashley Valley is approximately 15,000. Vernal has its own Police Department and Uintah County has a fully staffed Sheriff's Department. The city also has a 25 person volunteer fire department. Wells Fargo Bank, Mountain America Credit Union, and Zions First National Bank have branches in Vernal.

Vernal is 180 miles east of Salt Lake City and 300 miles west of Denver. Great Lakes Airlines provides air transportation to and from Denver via the Vernal Municipal Airport. Daily bus service is provided by Greyhound and Trailways Bus Lines to Salt Lake City and Denver.

<http://www.city-data.com/city/Vernal-Utah.html>

<http://www.epodunk.com/cgi-bin/genInfo.php?locIndex=26040>

<http://www.utahrealestate.com/>

### ***Schools***

Vernal has six elementary schools, one middle school, one junior high, two high schools, and a private Christian School. One high school is a special-purpose accredited high school for students 14 years and above who wish to pursue a quality education in a non-traditional model.

The Uintah District Learning Center provides special education opportunities for children with special needs.

Utah State University, with branch campuses in Vernal and neighboring Roosevelt offer 13 complete bachelor degree programs and seven complete master degree programs. Uintah Basin Applied Technology Center offers Certificates of Competency for technical entry-level work.

### ***Health Care***

Ashley Valley Medical Center, a 36-bed hospital with 11 physicians on staff provides a full complement of auxiliary services, complete with a 24 hour, fully staffed emergency room. Physicians from Salt Lake City also provide specialized, part-time services. Major hospitals are located in Salt Lake City and Provo.

For extended medical care, the Uintah Care Center is a 50-bed nursing home with additional

facilities to provide out-patient care on a daily basis. Child day care centers and preschools are available in Vernal. The community also has several dentists, two podiatrists, a pediatrician, two optometrists, an obstetrician/gynecologist, and five chiropractors. A variety of mental health professionals have practices in the community. Two veterinary clinics provide care for both large and small animals.

### ***Churches***

Vernal offers a relatively diverse range of churches, including: Assembly of God, Baptist, Catholic, Christian, Church of Christ, Congregational, Episcopal, Jehovah Witness, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Nazarene, Pentecostal, and Lutheran.

### ***Cultural Events***

Several cultural events occur throughout the year, including the Outlaw Trail Festival, Uintah County Fair, Festival of the Arts, Dinosaur Roundup Rodeo, Dinosaur Days, Dino-Soar Hot Air Balloon Festival, and the annual Christmas fair. The Uintah Arts Council sponsors several musical events, and Utah State University and Uintah High School produce a play each year.

### ***Civic and Service Organizations***

Active community and service clubs in Vernal include the Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce, Lions, Elks, Toastmasters, Rotary, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Masonic Lodge, Search and Rescue, Cultural Arts and American Legion, to name a few. Vernal has several dance schools instructing ballet, jazz, clogging, and tap. Gymnastic classes for children are available. Vernal has a large, well-stocked public library. The Utah Field House of Natural History is located adjacent to the popular Dinosaur Gardens in downtown. The Golden Age Senior Center provides activities, luncheons, transportation and dances for area senior citizens.

### ***Recreation Opportunities***

Vernal has parks, a recreation center with swimming pool, water slides, rock wall and gym, movie theaters, and an 18-hole golf course.

Several nearby rivers and lakes offer excellent fishing and boating opportunities. River trips on the Green River are also available through local guides. Rafts can be rented from local vendors.

Basketball, volleyball, softball, and baseball leagues are available for adults. Little League football, baseball, basketball, soccer, ice hockey, wrestling, and a swim team for children are locally sponsored activities.

### ***Climate***

Vernal sits at approximately 5,000 feet above sea level. Vernal enjoys four beautiful, temperate seasons; the climate is semi-arid with low humidity. Annual precipitation averages 15-20", mostly in the form of winter snows and spring/fall rains. Winter temperatures usually hover in the 20s-30s during the day, but will occasionally drop to sub-zero. Mid-summer temperatures can reach 100 degrees, but will generally linger in the low-mid 90s, dipping into the 50s at night.

### ***Economic Base***

Oil and gas exploration and production, along with oil shale, tar sands, gilsonite, phosphate, and timber are the major commodities of the local economy.

Tourism is a growing industry. Wal-Mart Supercenter and Kmart are major department stores in

the area and provide employment for local residents. Several government offices located in Vernal include the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Farmers Home Administration, Bureau of Indian Affairs and many state, county, and city offices.

***Housing***

The average apartment rental is around \$750.00 to \$900.00 a month. Rental homes are not readily available. Average purchase price for a basic three-bedroom home ranges from \$185,000 to \$290,000. Government housing is not available.

**Application Process:** The position will soon be posted on USAJobs at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). Interested applicants should follow the instructions and submit their application and all supporting documents required as outlined in the posted vacancy announcement by the closing date.

**For More Information:** Please contact Rowdy Muir at 435-784-3445 or email [rmuir@fs.fed.us](mailto:rmuir@fs.fed.us) no later than April 06, 2015 if you are interested in this position. An email will be sent to those who have responded to the outreach notice with the vacancy announcement number once it is published.